

Checklist: Choosing the Right Safety Switch

From Type and Certification to the Supply Chain

Use this checklist when designing and assembling a machine. Go through the questions before selecting a switch or requesting a quote, to ensure that the component meets the technical requirements of your machine design, the operating environment and the supply chain.



1. Function and Type

Your choice of type and locking mechanism determines all subsequent choices. Start here.

- ☐ Which type of safety switch is suitable for this application?
E.g. contactless, locked, emergency stop, magnetic, mechanical, hinged, etc.
- ☐ Does your design require a locked switch, or will an unlocked switch suffice?



2. Safety and Certification

The required Performance Level is determined by the risk analysis. Select only switches that meet this requirement.

- ☐ Does the switch have the correct certifications?
CE marking is mandatory for the European market. Environments with a risk of explosion impose additional requirements.
- ☐ Is the switch suitable for the Performance Level (PL) and Safety Integrity Level (SIL)?
SIL is part of Functional Safety, and PL indicates the extent to which a system can fulfil a safety function.



3. Environmental Specifications

Environmental factors determine whether a switch remains reliable throughout the machine's entire service life.

- ☐ What material is required for the housing?
E.g. standard plastic or 316 stainless steel in food processing or pharmaceutical environments.
- ☐ Which seal is required?
E.g. IP65 (dust-tight/splash-proof), IP67 (immersion) or IP69k for high-pressure or steam cleaning.
- ☐ Within what temperature range must the switch operate?
E.g. from -25 °C in refrigerated or frozen environments.



Need Help Choosing?

Teleson supplies safety switches from IDEM Safety Switches and helps you choose the right model based on the application, environment and supply chain. Please feel free to contact us for tailored advice.

Have you listed the options from the previous steps? If so, go through the compatibility requirements and supply chain criteria below before finalising the switch in the design.



4. Connections and Contacts

Choosing the right connection reduces installation time and prevents errors during subsequent maintenance or servicing.

☐ How would you like to connect the switch?

Is a standard cable sufficient, or is a connector with a specific pin configuration required?

☐ What contact configuration is required?

For example, two break contacts and one make contact, depending on the control configuration.

☐ What additional requirements are there?

E.g. (RFID) encoded, OSSD (Output Signal Switching Device), IO-Link, etc.



5. Procurement and Supply Chain

Technical specifications are only half the story. Make sure the supply chain is in order too before you finalise your choice of a component.

☐ Is the price per item acceptable to you?

For larger quantities, please contact the supplier to discuss special project prices.

☐ What is the standard lead time ex-works, and can arrangements be made to ensure a stable supply chain?

Consider call-off orders that are called off in batches, with the reserved stock ready for prompt delivery.

☐ Is there any information regarding future availability?

Always ask about any End of Life (EOL) status and whether there are any better alternatives available.

☐ Is the switch supplied by a reliable and approved supplier?

Look out for certifications such as ISO 9001, NIS2, traceability and official brand representatives.



Any Questions About the Selection Process? Teleson Is Here to Help.

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